



Department of Rehabilitation Services

Success Stories

Celtic Property Management, LLC, Hartford, CT



(From left to right) Stuart Katz, Judy Barratt, Kasey Negron and Heidi Janty.

connect-ability

Celtic Property Management of Hartford, CT, understands that a building is more than a place to live, just as a job is more than a way to earn a living.



Celtic Property Management provides people with a place to call home while improving the quality of life for residents and neighborhoods alike. With properties all over the country, the company offers affordable housing in Hartford, including Sigourney Mews and The Underwood.

Jeannette Rodriguez-Perez, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for the Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind (BESB), reached out to Sigourney Mews on behalf of a BESB consumer, Kasey Negrón. Kasey has a degree in early childhood education from the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico. She is legally blind and has a hearing impairment.

Jeannette and Judy Barratt, Property Manager at Sigourney Mews, had several conversations about the company's employment needs. Then, Jeannette created an Internship opportunity for Kasey, funded by BESB.

"Absolutely, Kasey will be a Property Manager one day."

Judy Barratt, Property Manager

Judy was impressed with Kasey's intelligence, warm personality and superb bilingual skills – a big help with many Spanish-speaking residents – as Judy didn't speak Spanish, and English was Kasey's second language. No matter. Jeannette provided some helpful tips to Judy and Kasey so that they could better understand one other and, soon, communicating was easy.

An On-the-Job Training (OJT) opportunity, with initial support from an onsite job coach followed the Internship. All without a single out-of-pocket dollar spent by Celtic Property Management. Additionally, for participating, the company was eligible for some tax credits.

From the personal to the financial. From fixing a lamp to filling out a housing application to keeping a fresh supply of lollipops, Kasey delivered. Today, Kasey is an Office Assistant. According to Judy, "She's extraordinarily talented. Absolutely, Kasey will be a Property Manager one day."

Jeannette also helped Kasey access assistive technology for the job, including a portable magnifier and

hearing aids, both funded by BESB and an iPad, funded through a grant from the CT Tech Act.

What's Kasey's favorite part of the job? "Learning everything." And one thing she has learned from friend and mentor Judy Barratt is that lollipops work. No matter what the flavor.

How we help:

- Candidate Prescreening
- Job Skills Assessment
- Paid Internship
- On-the-Job Training
- Onsite Job Support
- Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind
- Tax Credits
- CT Tech Act

